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Identical letters dated 17 February 2017 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, and further to our previous letters regarding the grave and repeated violations and attacks committed by Turkey against the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Syrian Arab Republic, I should like to apprise you of the new, brazen attacks that were perpetrated by the Turkish regime against the Syrian people and the sovereignty and territorial unity and integrity of the Syrian Arab Republic. Those acts constitute a threat to international peace and security and are in line with the Turkish regime's open support for terrorism.

- On 17 December 2016, Turkish forces, accompanied by terrorist groups belonging to the so-called Free Syrian Army, infiltrated Syrian territory at the village of Tuki, which is located in the Amuda region of Hasakah governorate.
- On 11 January 2017, the Turkish authorities brought heavy machinery into Syrian territory north-east of the village of Khazrah, Amuda district, Hasakah governorate. Those machines were accompanied by members of the Turkish Border Guard. They proceeded to build a dirt road approximately 20 metres long inside Syrian territory. They also dug a trench and laid cement beams for the construction of a barrier wall.
- On 14 January 2017, Turkish forces equipped with excavators infiltrated 250 metres into Syrian territory in the village of Arab Jum'ah, which is located in the area of Shira, Afrin region, Aleppo governorate, and began to open a two-kilometre road for the purpose of building a barrier wall in the area.
- On 14 and 15 January 2017, the Turkish Army infiltrated Syrian territory with heavy bulldozers at the villages of Qirmitliq and Khazafiyah in the Shaykh Hadid district, Afrin region, Aleppo governorate. They cleared the land, uprooting some 1,000 olive trees and dozens of pomegranate trees belonging to the inhabitants of the village of Qirmitliq and approximately 1,500 olive trees belonging to the people of the village of Khazafiyah in order to construct a road and a cement barrier wall in the area. On the same date, Turkish forces seized a plot of land in the exclusion zone near the village of Arab Buran, Sirran district, Afrin region, and moved a 600-metre long barbed wire strip 100 metres into Syrian territory.

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- On 16 January 2017, Turkish forces, accompanied by heavy machinery, infiltrated Syrian territory opposite the village of Atbah, which is located in the Jawadiyah district of Hasakah governorate. The dug a trench running from the above-mentioned village towards the villages of Dayr Ghusn and Bab Sulayman, which are located in that same area, and used construction equipment to build up mounds of crushed rock, with a view to building a barrier wall.

- On 22 January 2017, opposite the village of Hayakli, which is located in the Bulbul district of Aleppo governorate, Turkish Border Guard troops brought heavy machinery 300 metres into Syrian territory and began digging a trench in preparation for the construction of a barrier wall.

- In Harim district, Idlib governorate, the Turkish authorities seized approximately six dunums of Syrian land located near the commercial bakery. They proceeded to build a road that runs to the seized land, which is the property of Syrian civilians. Turkish forces also infiltrated approximately one kilometre into Syrian territory in the villages of Khirbat al-Jawz, Zawf, Nasirah and Hayta, Idlib governorate, and built roads running between those villages. They also began building a barrier wall in that area.

- The Turkish authorities also recently established a military base in Syrian territory. The base is in the village of Jatrar, which lies north of Tall Rif'at town, Aleppo governorate, and comprises an ammunition depot and quarters for Turkish officers and soldiers. The base also houses terrorists of the so-called Euphrates Shield group, which is supported by the Turkish authorities. They also seized Syrian territory near Kuljibrin village, which is located in I'zaz district, Aleppo governorate, and uprooted trees in preparation for the establishment of a military base.

- On 5 February, a Turkish military force infiltrated an area 300 metres in depth and 3 kilometres in length in the Bulbul district, which is located in the Afrin countryside, Aleppo governorate. The force cut down forest trees, dug trenches and built a concrete wall.

These attacks are a continuation of the Turkish regime's aggression that began more than five years ago. That regime has provided various forms of military, material and logistical support to armed terrorist groups; facilitated the entry of foreign terrorist fighters into Syria; established training camps in its territory under direct Turkish military and intelligence supervision; provided covering fire in support of terrorist groups inside Syria; and armed those groups with the most modern weaponry. The Turkish regime has even provided them with medical care inside Turkey. It is also no secret that the regime has built a wall inside Syrian territory to the detriment of the landowners, something that is contrary to good-neighbourly relations.

The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic strongly condemns Turkey's repeated crimes and acts of aggression against the Syrian people and the territorial integrity and unity of the Syrian Arab Republic. Such actions are a bare-faced violation of Syrian sovereignty. They also flagrantly contravene the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, the rules of international law and all Security Council resolutions concerning Syria and counter-terrorism.

The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic once again calls on the Security Council to fulfil its responsibility to maintain international peace and security, and to put an end to the above-mentioned crimes that the Turkish regime is committing against the Syrian people and to its repeated aggressions against Syrian territory. The Council must also compel the Turkish regime to implement the Council's

resolutions on counter-terrorism, and to respect fully the integrity and unity of the territory and people of the Syrian Arab Republic.

I should be grateful if the present letter could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mounzer **Mounzer**
Minister Counsellor
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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Security Council

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27 February 2017
English
Original: Russian

Letter dated 17 February 2017 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith bulletins from the Russian Centre for Reconciliation of Opposing Sides in the Syrian Arab Republic for the period 14-17 February 2017 (see annex).

I should be grateful if this letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) V. **Churkin**

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Annex to the letter dated 17 February 2017 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Humanitarian bulletin of the Centre for Reconciliation of Opposing Sides in the Syrian Arab Republic (14 February 2017)

Provision of humanitarian aid to the population of the Syrian Arab Republic by the Russian Federation

Over the past 24 hours, the Russian Centre for Reconciliation of Opposing Sides has carried out eight humanitarian operations: six in Aleppo city, one at Hatitat al-Jarash in Damascus governorate and one at Bishriyah in Ladhiqiyah governorate.

In Aleppo city (in the Haydariyah, Azizi and Shaykh Maqsud districts, at schools in the Sukkari and Zahra' districts, and near a kindergarten in Tishrin), 3.7 tons of bread and 3,000 portions of hot food were delivered to civilians.

At Hatitat al-Jarash in Damascus governorate, 350 food parcels were forcibly delivered to displaced civilians living in a temporary camp.

A shipment of 100 children's backpacks containing gifts and school supplies was delivered to a school at Bishriyah in Ladhiqiyah governorate.

Over the past 24 hours, humanitarian assistance has been provided to 3,450 residents. In total, 5.9 tons of humanitarian cargo have been distributed to the population.

Provision of humanitarian aid to the population of the Syrian Arab Republic by other States and international organizations

The United Nations and partners have continued to provide food, medical, psychological and legal assistance to the Syrian Arab Republic. Work is also continuing to restore infrastructure and provide temporary accommodation to those in need.

Information bulletin of the Russian Centre for Reconciliation of Opposing Sides in the Syrian Arab Republic (15 February 2017)

Reconciliation of opposing sides

Over the past 24 hours, six ceasefire agreements have been signed with Rayhan, Nawlah and Rakabiyah in Damascus governorate and Marj Matar, Tall Hasan Basha and Hawi in Hama governorate.

The number of populated areas that have joined the reconciliation process has increased to 1,249.

Negotiations on joining the ceasefire regime continued with armed opposition groups in Aleppo, Damascus, Hama, Homs and Qunaytirah governorates.

The number of armed groups that have announced their commitment to accepting and fulfilling the terms of the ceasefire of 27 February 2016 remains unchanged at 110.

The number of populated areas which the Syrian government forces have liberated from armed groups of the international terrorist organization Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant has increased to 48.

Over the past 24 hours, 173 square kilometres have fallen under the control of government forces. A total area of 1601.4 square kilometres has been liberated since 1 January 2017.

Observance of the ceasefire regime

From 0000 hours on 30 December 2016, a ceasefire came into force in accordance with the consolidated agreement on a comprehensive resolution of the Syrian crisis.

The number of Syrian opposition armed groups that have joined the ceasefire regime is unchanged — it is still 64.

Over the past 24 hours, the Russian representative office of the Russian and Turkish Joint Commission reviewing issues related to violations of the consolidated agreement has reported six violations, four in Ladhiqiyah governorate and two in Hama governorate.

The Turkish representative office has reported 10 violations in the following governorates: 3 in Dar'a, 3 in Damascus, 2 in Idlib, 1 in Aleppo and 1 in Qunaytirah.

During its investigations of these incidents, the Russian representative office confirmed three ceasefire violations and was unable to confirm the other seven.

Humanitarian bulletin of the Centre for Reconciliation of Opposing Sides in the Syrian Arab Republic (15 February 2017)

Provision of humanitarian aid to the population of the Syrian Arab Republic by the Russian Federation

Over the past 24 hours, the Russian Centre for Reconciliation of Opposing Sides has carried out nine humanitarian operations in the following governorates: six in Aleppo, two in Damascus and one in Homs.

In Aleppo city (in the Haydariyah, Bani Zayd, Old Aleppo and Shaykh Maqsud districts and at schools in the Salihin and Meridian districts), 3.8 tons of bread were delivered to civilians.

A total of 750 food parcels were delivered to residents of Dayr al-Asafir and Marj Sultan in Damascus governorate and Dahiyat al-Majd in Homs governorate.

Over the past 24 hours, humanitarian assistance has been provided to 3,600 residents. In total, 7 tons of humanitarian cargo have been distributed to the population.

Provision of humanitarian aid to the population of the Syrian Arab Republic by other States and international organizations

Russian aircraft dropped 20 tons of humanitarian cargo (food products), received by the Syrian authorities through the United Nations, to the city of Dayr-al-Zawr.

At the Humaymim airbase, Russian Il-76 military transport aircraft of the Russian air and space forces delivered 18.5 tons of humanitarian cargo (juice, tinned vegetables, jam and preserved meat) **sent by the Republic of Armenia**.

Information bulletin of the Russian Centre for Reconciliation of Opposing Sides in the Syrian Arab Republic (16 February 2017)

Reconciliation of opposing sides

Over the past 24 hours, two ceasefire agreements have been signed with Bayad and Hatitat al-Turkuman in Damascus governorate.

The number of populated areas that have joined the reconciliation process has increased to 1,251.

Negotiations on joining the ceasefire regime continued with armed opposition groups in Aleppo, Damascus, Hama, Homs and Qunaytirah governorates.

The number of armed groups that have announced their commitment to accepting and fulfilling the terms of the ceasefire of 27 February 2016 remains unchanged at 110.

The number of populated areas which the Syrian government forces have liberated from armed groups of the international terrorist organization Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant since 1 January 2017 has increased to 49.

Over the past 24 hours, 86.8 square kilometres have fallen under the control of government forces. A total area of 1688.2 square kilometres has been liberated since 1 January 2017.

Observance of the ceasefire regime

From 0000 hours on 30 December 2016, a ceasefire came into force in accordance with the consolidated agreement on a comprehensive resolution of the Syrian crisis.

The number of Syrian opposition armed groups that have joined the ceasefire regime is unchanged — it is still 64.

Over the past 24 hours, the Russian representative office of the Russian and Turkish Joint Commission reviewing issues related to violations of the consolidated agreement has reported three violations in Ladhiqiyah governorate.

The Turkish representative office has reported six violations in the following governorates: four in Dar'a, one in Damascus and one in Aleppo.

During its investigations of these incidents, the Russian representative office confirmed one ceasefire violation and was unable to confirm the other five.

Humanitarian bulletin of the Centre for Reconciliation of Opposing Sides in the Syrian Arab Republic (16 February 2017)

Provision of humanitarian aid to the population of the Syrian Arab Republic by the Russian Federation

Over the past 24 hours, the Russian Centre for Reconciliation of Opposing Sides has carried out eight humanitarian operations: five in Aleppo, two in Ladhiqiyah, and also one at Sa'dnaya in Damascus governorate.

In Aleppo city, in the Ard al-Hamra' and Old Aleppo districts and the Ballat quarter and at schools (in the Salah al-Din and 3000 districts), and at the School of Arts for Women, 3.7 tons of bread were delivered to civilians.

In Ladhiqiyah city, 1.5 tons of medicine were delivered (to the Zahi Azraq State military hospital) and 3 tons of food products.

A total of 100 food parcels were delivered to the inhabitants of Sa'dnaya in Damascus governorate.

At the Humaymim airbase, as part of the "Children of Russia-Children of Syria" operation, Russian military transport aircraft of the Russian armed forces delivered 18 tons of humanitarian cargo (toys, essential commodities, office and school supplies).

Over the past 24 hours, humanitarian assistance has been provided to 3,590 residents.

In total, 26.7 tons of humanitarian cargo have been supplied to the Syrian Arab Republic and distributed to the population.

Provision of humanitarian aid to the population of the Syrian Arab Republic by international organizations

Russian aircraft dropped 20.6 tons of humanitarian cargo (food products), received by the Syrian authorities through the United Nations, to the city of Dayr al-Zawr.

Information bulletin of the Russian Centre for Reconciliation of Opposing Sides in the Syrian Arab Republic (17 February 2017)

Reconciliation of opposing sides

Over the past 24 hours, eight ceasefire agreements have been signed with Hawsh al-Khanim and Hawsh al-Shalq in Damascus governorate and Maskah, Sayfat, Muslimiyah, Handarat, Haylan, and Rityan in Aleppo governorate.

The number of populated areas that have joined the reconciliation process has increased to 1,259.

Negotiations on joining the ceasefire regime continued with armed opposition groups in Aleppo, Damascus, Hama, Homs and Qunaytirah governorates.

The number of armed groups that have announced their commitment to accepting and fulfilling the terms of the ceasefire of 27 February 2016 remains unchanged at 110.

The number of populated areas which the Syrian government forces have liberated from armed groups of the international terrorist organization Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant since 1 January 2017 has increased to 51.

Over the past 24 hours, 33 square kilometres have fallen under the control of government forces. A total area of 1721.2 square kilometres has been liberated since 1 January 2017.

Observance of the ceasefire regime

From 0000 hours on 30 December 2016, a ceasefire came into force in accordance with the consolidated agreement on a comprehensive resolution of the Syrian crisis.

The number of Syrian opposition armed groups that have joined the ceasefire regime remains unchanged at 64.

Over the past 24 hours, the Russian representative office of the Russian and Turkish Joint Commission reviewing issues related to violations of the consolidated agreement has reported four violations in Ladhiqiyah governorate.

The Turkish representative office has reported eight violations in the following governorates: four in Dar'a, one in Damascus and three in Aleppo.

During its investigations of these incidents, the Russian representative office was unable to confirm the eight ceasefire violations.